

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Yoji NISHIO, et al.**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **January 30, 2002**

For: **PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SEALED CONTAINER AND BLANK FOR SEALED CONTAINER**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 30, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 4 and 8 as follows:

4. (Amended) A sealed container tubular blank for use in a process for producing a sealed container according to any one of claims 1 or 2, the blank having a blank body in the form of a generally rectangular plate, the blank body having generally rectangular first to fourth panels extending continuously along the periphery of the blank with first to third vertical scores provided between the adjacent panels, the first to fourth panels respectively comprising first to fourth top panels, first to fourth trunk panels integral with the first to fourth top panels with first to fourth top horizontal scores formed therebetween, and first to fourth bottom panels integral with the first

to fourth trunk panels with first to fourth bottom horizontal scores formed therebetween, odd-numbered or even-numbered two top panels among the first to fourth top panels being each provided with an inverted V-shaped roof folding score, odd-numbered or even-numbered two bottom panels among the first to fourth bottom panels being each provided with a V-shaped ear folding score.

8. (Amended) A sealed container blank according to any one of claims 4 to 7 wherein the blank body has a striplike fifth panel integral with the fourth panel, with a fourth vertical score formed therebetween, and joined to an inner surface of a free edge portion of the first panel by sealing, the two top panels each provided with the roof folding score are the first and third top panels, and the two bottom panels each provided with the ear folding score are the second and fourth bottom panels.

REMARKS

The above amendment to the claims have been made to place the application in better condition for examination.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In the event there are any additional fees required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 4 and 8 have been amended as follows:

4. A sealed container tubular blank for use in a process for producing a sealed container according to any one of claims 1 or 3 2, the blank having a blank body in the form of a generally rectangular plate, the blank body having generally rectangular first to fourth panels extending continuously along the periphery of the blank with first to third vertical scores provided between the adjacent panels, the first to fourth panels respectively comprising first to fourth top panels, first to fourth trunk panels integral with the first to fourth top panels with first to fourth top horizontal scores formed therebetween, and first to fourth bottom panels integral with the first to fourth trunk panels with first to fourth bottom horizontal scores formed therebetween, odd-numbered or even-numbered two top panels among the first to fourth top panels being each provided with an inverted V-shaped roof folding score, odd-numbered or even-numbered two bottom panels among the first to fourth bottom panels being each provided with a V-shaped ear folding score.

8. A sealed container blank according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 7~~ claim 4 wherein the blank body has a striplike fifth panel integral with the fourth panel, with a fourth vertical score formed therebetween, and joined to an inner surface of a free edge portion of the first panel by sealing, the two top panels each provided with the roof folding score are the first and third top panels, and the two bottom panels each provided with the ear folding score are the second and fourth bottom panels.